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REMARKS

The present response is intended to be fully responsive to all points of objection and/or rejection raised by the Examiner and is believed to place the application in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the application is respectfully requested.

Applicants assert that the present invention is new, non-obvious and useful. Prompt consideration and allowance of the claims is respectfully requested.

Status of Claims

Claims 1-4, 6-10, 12, 20-28, 30 and 31 are pending in the application.

Claims 1-4, 6-10, 12, 20-28, 30 and 31 have been rejected.

Claims 1, 4, 8, 10, 12, 27 and 30 have been amended.

Claims 9, 20-26, 28 and 31 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. In making this cancellation without prejudice, Applicants reserve all rights in these claims to file divisional and/or continuation patent applications.

New claims 37 and 38 have been added in order to further define what the Applicants consider to be the invention. Applicants respectfully assert that no new matter has been added.

Applicants respectfully assert that the amendments to the claims add no new matter.

CLAIM REJECTIONS

35 U.S.C. § 102 Rejections

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-4, 8-10, 12, 27, 28, 30 and 31 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e), as being anticipated by Gazdzinski (US Patent Application Publication No. 2001/0051766). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection in view of the

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remarks that follow. Applicants note that claims 9, 28 and 31 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, and their rejection is moot.

Gazdzinski discloses:

An improved endoscopic device which is introduced into the intestinal tract of a living organism and which operates autonomously therein, adapted to obtain and store or transmit one or more types of data such as visual image data, laser autofluorescence data, or ultrasonic waveform data. . . Methods for inspecting and/or treating the interior regions of the intestinal tract using the aforementioned apparatus is also disclosed.
(Abstract)

Regarding claims 1-4, 8, 10, 12 and 27, these claims depend, directly or indirectly, from new claim 37, and therefore include all the limitations of this claim. Gazdzinski does not teach or suggest "a display for displaying in-vivo pressure data provided by said pressure sensor simultaneously with corresponding in-vivo images provided by said imager", as recited in new claim 37. Therefore, Gazdzinski cannot anticipate claim 37. Accordingly claim 37 is allowable over Gazdzinski. At least for this reason, claims 1-4, 8, 10, 12 and 27 are likewise allowable. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the rejections to claims 1-4, 8, 10, 12 and 27 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over Gazdzinski.

Regarding claim 30, this claim depends from new claim 38, and therefore includes all the limitations of this claim. Gazdzinski does not teach or suggest "simultaneously displaying said in-vivo pressure data and said image", as recited in new claim 38. Therefore, Gazdzinski cannot anticipate claim 38. Accordingly claim 38 is allowable over Gazdzinski. At least for this reason, claim 30 is likewise allowable. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the rejections to claim 30 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over Gazdzinski.

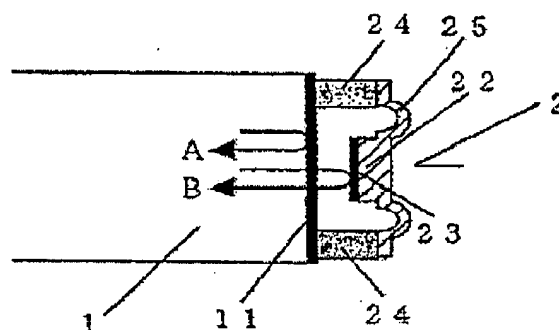
In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-4, 6, 7 and 10 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e), as being anticipated by Esashi et al. (US Patent Application Publication No.

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2002/0162399). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection in view of the remarks that follow.

Esashi et al. discloses:

A reflective movable diaphragm unit 2 having diaphragm portions 25 formed by a circular SiO₂ film, a mesa portion 22 and light-reflecting mirror portion 23 of the SiO₂ film disposed in the center, and a ring-shaped spacer 24a and bonding layer 24b formed of metal layers in the circumferential edge portion of the diaphragm portion 25, whereby a pressure sensor is formed. (Abstract)



Esashi, Fig. 1

The device shown in Fig. 1 of Esashi (reproduced above) forms a pressure sensor. As recited in Esashi, paragraph [0045], "[t]he pressure sensor according to the present invention utilizes the interference of light A reflected on the half mirror layer 11 and light B reflected on the light reflecting mirror portion 23 with each other, and is placed in a pressure atmosphere to be measured, whereby the diaphragm portion 21 is deformed in accordance with the pressure to cause a phase shift to occur between the reflected light A, B, interference light on which the phase shift is reflected being formed, a pressure being detected owing to the properties of the interference light. Namely, a pressure can be detected on the basis of the correlation between the variation of an optical distance due to the displacement of the diaphragm portion 21 based on the pressure of an object to be measured and the phases of the reflected light, or the quantity of the reflected light".

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Regarding claims 1-4, 6, 7 and 10, these claims depend, directly or indirectly, from new claim 37, and therefore include all the limitations of this claim. Esashi et al. does not teach or suggest "a display for displaying in-vivo pressure data provided by said pressure sensor simultaneously with corresponding in-vivo images provided by said imager", as recited in new claim 37. Therefore, Esashi et al. cannot anticipate claim 37. Accordingly claim 37 is allowable over Esashi et al. At least for this reason, claims 1-4, 6, 7 and 10 are likewise allowable. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the rejections to claims 1-4, 6, 7 and 10 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over Esashi et al.

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-3, 6-8 and 10 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e), as being anticipated by Chiel et al. (US Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0065250). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection in view of the remarks that follow.

Chiel et al. discloses:

Expandable actuators surround a central conduit. Each actuator comprises a bladder that, when fluid is introduced, expands laterally while contracting longitudinally. A restorative spring can be placed inside a bladder and between the two ends to restore the actuator to its original shape as fluid is withdrawn. Multiple actuators can be placed in series to successively inflate and deflate and generate a peristaltic motion. One or more Shape Memory Alloy (SMA) springs can be affixed to one or more restorative springs to cause bending motion. (Abstract)

Regarding claims 1-3, 6-8 and 10, these claims depend, directly or indirectly, from new claim 37, and therefore include all the limitations of this claim. Chiel et al. does not teach or suggest "a display for displaying in-vivo pressure data provided by said pressure sensor in conjunction with corresponding in-vivo images provided by said imager", as recited

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in new claim 37. Therefore, Chiel et al. cannot anticipate claim 37. Accordingly claim 37 is allowable over Chiel et al. At least for this reason, claims 1-3, 6-8 and 10 are likewise allowable. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the rejections to claims 1-3, 6-8 and 10 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over Chiel et al.

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 20-27, 28, 30 and 31 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e), as being anticipated by D'Andrea et al. (US Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0191430). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection in view of the remarks that follow.

Claims 20-26, 28 and 31 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, and the Examiner's rejections are therefore moot.

D'Andrea et al. discloses:

an improved ingestible capsule (28) that is arranged to sense one or more physiological parameters within a mammalian body, an to transmit such parameters to an extra-corporal receiver (50). In use, the capsule and receiver perform the method of determining the real-time location of the capsule within a tract of a mammal. This method includes the steps of providing the capsule, the capsule having one or more sensors, ingesting the capsule, transmitting a signal from the capsule, receiving the transmitted signal, and determining the real-time location of the capsule within the tract as a function of the received signal. The received signal may also indicate the value of one or more sensed parameters.
(Abstract)

Regarding claim 27, this claim depends from new claim 37, and therefore includes all the limitations of this claim. D'Andrea et al. does not teach or suggest "a display for displaying in-vivo pressure data provided by said pressure sensor in conjunction with corresponding in-vivo images provided by said imager", as recited in new claim 37.

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Therefore, D'Andrea et al. cannot anticipate claim 37. Accordingly claim 37 is allowable over D'Andrea et al. At least for this reason, claim 27 is likewise allowable. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the rejections to claim 27 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(c) over D'Andrea et al.

Regarding claim 30, this claim depends from new claim 38, and therefore includes all the limitations of this claim. D'Andrea et al. does not teach or suggest "simultaneously displaying said in-vivo pressure data and said image", as recited in new claim 38. Therefore, D'Andrea et al. cannot anticipate claim 38. Accordingly claim 38 is allowable over D'Andrea et al. At least for this reason, claim 30 is likewise allowable. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the rejections to claim 30 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over D'Andrea et al.

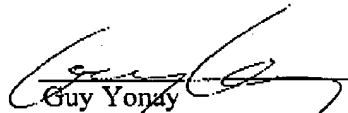
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In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the pending claims are deemed to be allowable. Their favorable reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner have any question or comment as to the form, content or entry of this Amendment, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number below. Similarly, if there are any further issues yet to be resolved to advance the prosecution of this application to issue, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned counsel.

Please charge any fees associated with this paper to deposit account No. 50-3355.

Respectfully submitted,



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Dated: February 19, 2007

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